METHODIST

Peace Courier

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DEDICATED TO DEATH OR CONSECRATED TO LIFE?

President Eisenhower's proposal for he peaceful use of atomic energy through n "International Atomic Energy Agency" efore the General Assembly of the United ations on December 8, 1953 deserves im- ediate widespread support. While hope is ot at the present time too strong, it till exists. The door has not been com- letely shut.

The Executive Secretary of the Board f World Peace appeared before the Joint ommittee on Atomic Energy May 13, as a itness with respect to Bill H.R. 8862 in he hearing in the old Supreme Court hamber in the Capitol, and filed a writ- en statement raising questions and pro- osing changes. A copy of the statement ay be secured by writing to Charles F. oss, Jr., Board of World Peace.

More important is an expression of our views to your Senator and your Repre- entative in the House. Copies may well be ent to the President and the Secretary of tate. The letter of the Secretary of tate, printed below, should stimulate housands of Methodists to write the let- ers suggested above. Believe me, these etters may be more far-reaching in their ffect than can be estimated.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

June 8, 1954

ear Mr. Boss:

he President has referred to me your etter of May 24, enclosing copies of a tatement you presented to the Joint Com- ittee on Atomic Energy regarding Bill .R. 8862. We are very happy to receive he views which you gave the Committee. want to express our deep appreciation or your strong endorsement of the Presi- ent's proposal of December 8, 1953 con- erning the establishment of an Interna- ional Atomic Energy Agency. The earliest ossible fulfillment of the President's esire to help the people of the world ealize the benefits of the peaceful uses f atomic energy is, of course, a matter of major concern to the President and myself. You may be assured that, even though negotiations with the Soviet Union have not presently produced the results we seek, we have not yet given up hope. In any event, we intend to consult with the free nations principally involved, seeking to make progress on the Presi- dent's proposal.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) John Foster Dulles

PEACE IN INDOCHINA

Will there be peace in Indochina? Who knows? Who can answer? Talk of immediate intervention, however, has ceased for the time being. The Soviet Union, taking advantage of the rift between Great Britain and the United States in matters of international policy, apparently, through the Chinese Communist government, has made attractive offers to France. Should the proposal contain agreement for immediate cease-fire, supervision of a truce by "neutrals," division of Vietnam with independence for both sections—and for Laos and Cambodia—from both French and Communist control, the result would not be far off from what could have been anticipated.

Would the Soviet Union be willing to vote these Indochinese nations, if and when they became independent, into the United Nations, unless the Communist section of Vietnam also would be admitted? Could any of these nations be admitted to membership before the Chinese Communist government is given recognition as the government of China and voted a seat in the United Nations? Probably not.

On the whole, the cease-fire and truce are highly desirable even though they may not settle the questions of a continuing peace, even as is true in Korea. These peace efforts may well be under discussion over a long period of years. The Asian nations may work out their own plan of security, both from military aggression in Asia and from Western political or economic exploitation. One thing which has emerged with clarity is, that armed inter-

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Staff: Rev. Charles F. Boss, Jr., executive sec'y; Rev. Carl D. Soule, field sec'y; Mr. Herman Will, Jr., administrative sec'y.

PEACE IN INDOCHINA—Continued

vention in any case appears to be the wrong method of solution:

(1) The American people seem extremely reluctant to approve their sons being shipped for new war in Indochina. (2) It seems apparent that France is not committed to the continuance of armed action, necessary for intervention, nor (3) That England is prepared to press for, or carry out armed action to the extent deemed necessary to overcome powerful communist forces in Indochina. (4) The Indochinese themselves are psychologically uncertain. They ask, "will new forms of western imperialism replace the old forms, administered by the French?" (5) It is not clear that armed intervention could have been restricted to Vietnam or even to Indochina. The fall of Indochina could mean the loss of all Southeastern Asia. (6) Armed intervention, extended to Southeastern Asia, would embrace territory from Vietnam through Thailand, Malaya, and Indonesia, etc., covering an expanse as wide as the United States—3,000 to 3,500 miles. (7) There is no certainty that the West can completely diagnose the intentions of the East. There are grounds for fear that armed intervention on the part of the West would not only lose the sympathy of Southern and Southeastern Asians, but of China. (8) The risk of a long drawn-out war, if not an atomic-hydrogen war with the Chinese Communist Republic and the Soviet Union, might follow.

In the event France and the Chinese Communist government reach conclusions satisfactory to them, and the Indochinese war comes to a close, Americans should not be concerned as to who lost, but seek to make sure that all nations "win." We should approach conference tables for the purpose of the making of peace, ready to enter into the most satisfactory solutions which are possible. We should at least seek to establish bases of co-existence which would give time—a hundred years, if necessary—for further mature consideration of peaceful change, and for reconsideration of solutions to the conflict and to the nature of the problems involved. One consideration, which emerges from the conscience of the common people, is that the solutions to our problems lie not in another world war on an atomic and hydrogen bomb scale, not to mention rockets and other devices with atomic warheads, launched at terrific speed over long distances, with defense against them impossible. Better to make some adjustments while we are sane than to expect remnants of the race to endeavor to rebuild a shattered and destroyed world of nations following the holocaust of mass annihilation, now possible through our "civilized" insanity.

C.F.B., Jr.

"QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE CRUSADE FOR WORLD ORDER"

is the title of a new leaflet published by the Board of World Peace. Answering briefly sixteen questions, it supplies a condensed description and interpretation of The Crusade for World Order, intended for wide use by laity and ministry. A sample copy will be sent on request. Sample copies will be included in the September World Order Day mailing. Orders from pastors, local church committees, conference boards, women's societies, institutes, etc. will be filled promptly at the price of one cent per copy and the same price in larger quantities, i.e., $1.00 per hundred. With a minimum effort on the part of leaders, a million Methodists could soon become informed with respect to the Crusade.

R.C.O. and PRAYER

Dear Mr. Boss,

The booklet "Register Christian Opinion" is a fine and helpful pamphlet. For some years I have been writing our legislators against the drafting of 18-year-olds and then again in protest to the U.M.T. Of late I have written many, many letters against any involvement of our armed forces in Indochina. All together I would say I have written more than 350 letters. I was familiar with the routine of writing our Congressmen, but the booklet helped because it contained a complete list and some other information.

I have always mentioned that I was praying for those I wrote to and that included not only our own Senators but many, many others, the President and the Secretary of State. I feel that we should in some way make it known in our letters that we are praying and that we expect the leaders of our country to promote Christian principles of goodwill and tolerance.

Enclosed is 50¢ for 12 of the booklets. I want to put them in our literature rack at the church, hoping that others will use them. I have also prepared a "Pledge of Prayer for Peace" card, which the Council of Church Women here are co-

rating with me to use, as well as
ers I have contacted. I'm happy that
Methodist Organization, of which I am
ember, is concerned enough to prepare
h pieces as the booklet.

Yours very truly,
Ava Edwards

ncouver, Washington

YOUTH AND STUDENT MATERIALS

Leaders in youth institutes and assemies as well as student conferences can ure helpful information and material m the Board of World Peace. Filmstrips free loan, suggestions for motion picre films, official church statements on and peace, resource pamphlets and dission guides are available. Information draft procedure for young men seeking assification as conscientious objectors, dents, or pre-ministerial candidates n be obtained free of charge in mimeoaphed form. H.W.

METHODISTS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Under the auspices of the Board of rld Peace approximately 75 Methodist aders, principally from North Carolina d Virginia, but with teams also from nsylvania, New Jersey, Northwest Inana, Maryland and the District of Combia, met on May 11th and 12th in the partment of State at Washington. The ogram was arranged under the expert idance of Mr. Harry W. Seamans, Public aison Officer, Public Services Division the Department of State. Mr. Seamans s been rendering a most important serve not only in conferences at the Dertment of State, but in the supply of terials and in services to the field.

On the evenings of May 11th and 12th, d the morning of the 13th, the Seminar United States and United Nations Policy t in Union Methodist Church, not far om the Department, through the courtesy the pastor, Dr. Edward Lewis. On the ening of May 11th Senator John Sherman oper of Kentucky addressed the group on e United Nations and answered questions ereafter. On the evening of May 12th the w Assistant Secretary of Labor, Mr. J. nest Wilkins, addressed the group on the ternational Labor Organization, one of e specialized agencies of the United tions, and his special responsibility. . Wilkins is a prominent Methodist yman, a member of the Judicial Council The Methodist Church.

The Department of State provided oroughly informed and brilliant speakers d interpreters of various areas of imrtant world developments. Joseph J. sco, Staff Assistant in the Bureau of ited Nations Affairs, opened up dissions on the subject "The U.S. Partiction in the U.N." William Caldwell, fice of Public Reports, spoke and answered questions on the Technical Cooperation Program.

On the morning of May 12th three remarkable addresses and interpretations were presented; Henry B. Cox, Assistant Public Affairs Advisor on European Affairs, spoke on Europe.

Richard H. Sanger, Officer in Charge of Public Affairs, Bureau of Near Eastern, South Asian and African Affairs, discussed problems facing the United States in the Near East.

Kenneth P. Landon, Officer in Charge of Thai and Malayan Affairs and Far Eastern Affairs, presented and interpreted the problems facing the United States in Southeastern Asia. His handling of questions, as in the above-mentioned cases, also revealed the grasp which these officers have of actual conditions in the territories covered.

After luncheon in the Department of State Cafeteria on the 12th, Mr. Harry W. Seamans presented, and answered questions on the theme, "Using the Department's Information Program" and was followed by William Hamilton, Briefings Officer in the Office of Public Information, U.S. Information Agency, on "United States Information Agency Program Review."

The Board of World Peace of The Methodist Church is deeply grateful to the Department of State and the fine corps of expert consultants, listed above, for sharing with the leadership present, their rich backgrounds of understanding of problems and policies involved. The conference was democratically conducted and ample opportunity was extended to the participants for questions and comments on the themes discussed. The conference, as a whole, was under the direction of the Executive Secretary of the Board of World Peace, Charles F. Boss, Jr., who led the final three and a half hour discussion on policies and program in the churches and conferences represented in the group. The expenses of those attending the conference were either paid by the individuals or by their churches and conferences.

METHODIST LAYMAN SPEAKS UP FOR PEACE

In The Methodist Church of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, there is a young adult, a veteran of World War II, by the name of I. Howard Jones. Vocationally speaking, he is a district manager for General Motors Acceptance Corporation. As a Christian, he is deeply concerned about the war and peace problem because of his military experiences, his contact with the peace movement in The Methodist Church, and his reading of peace literature.

During the last two years he has given his witness for peace on many occasions in his local church and community: in his Sunday school class, on Layman's Sunday in the pulpit, and through a series of daily radio programs. Reported by C.D.S.

NEW CRUSADE FILM AVAILABLE!

Here's a chance to learn about the Crusade for World Order and each Methodist's part in it. Very recently Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, the Chairman of the Bishops' Commission for the Crusade, was interviewed by Richard Thompson, President of the National Conference of Methodist Youth, and Barbara Ricks, Youth Consultant to the Assembly of the World Council of Churches. The Radio and Film Commission, on behalf of the Board of World Peace, directed the filming of this interview in which the young people asked about the role of youth as well as adults in the Crusade program.

YOUTH AND THE CRUSADE FOR WORLD ORDER, as this film is titled, runs for thirteen minutes and is suitable for television use as well as for informing and stimulating interest among youth and adults. It is available for rental from The Methodist Publishing House which serves you at $3.50 per showing. Copies are available for purchase at $45.00 each from the Radio and Film Commission, Box 868, Nashville, Tennessee.

Purchase a copy of this new visual resource for use in your conference and district work among young people. Schedule showings of the film in local churches and at subdistrict and district meetings of pastors, youth, laymen, and women. For further information, write the Board of World Peace, 740 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.

H.W.

A COMMUNITY PEACE PROJECT

Last November Wooster, Ohio, held a World Peace Workshop, a two-day meeting attended by 500 persons. Topics studied were: Peace Through Agriculture; The Economics of World Peace; The United Nations; Armament Versus Disarmament; The Place of the Church in World Peace. Among the speakers were Miss Florence Reynolds of the Food and Agriculture Organization; Rev. Andre Trocme of the College Cevenol, France; Hon. Ernest Gross, former ambassador on the U.S. Delegation to the U.N.; Kermit Eby of the University of Chicago; and E. Raymond Wilson of the Friends Committee on National Legislation.

The organizers and sponsors of the Workshop were local people who felt the urge to explore more intensively some of the avenues to world peace and security. An effort was made to obtain the presentation of different sides of the more controversial questions. No resolutions were passed and no formal conclusions were drawn. Workshop members were urged to extend the value of the meeting by taking reports back to their own groups. Reports of the Workshop are available at 20¢ each from Mr. R. B. Jameson, Executive Secretary, P. O. Box 11, Wooster, Ohio.

SOUTH DAKOTANS SUPPORT THE UNITED NATIONS

In recent months there has been a st forward in South Dakota in behalf of education for the United Nations. The movement was sparked by a visit to Governor Sigurd Anderson of Mr. L. T. Uecke Methodist school administrator from Mitchell, and Mrs. Esther Headley, P.T.A President of the state.

The Governor agreed to call a meetin of representatives of civic groups in early March. Rev. Robert McCullagh of Vermillion and Rev. Robert Holmes of Rap City, members of the Annual Conference Board of World Peace, attended this conference. A decision was made to establis a South Dakota chapter of the American Association for the United Nations and, as a first step, to bring to the state such persons as Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Dr. Ralph Bunche.

"OPERATION PEACE"

Last December the Board of Social Study and Action of the Southern California-Arizona Annual Conference, which includes a committee on world peac paid part of the expenses of sending thirteen ministers and one lay woman to the Detroit Conference on "The Church an Peace." Together with fifteen other Cali fornians from a number of other denominations, they flew by chartered plane to Detroit and back. There with hundreds of other delegates they studied three main topics: The Christian and the Contempora World; The Christian Confronts Communism and Positive Action for Peace.

Upon returning home, the delegates planned a series of "Peace Panels" to spread the findings of the Detroit Conference. Another aim was to consult with local peace committees and to stimulate a greater interest in peacemaking. Peace Panels were held in about twenty churche and reached about 2,000 people. The resu has been a heightened concern for greate efforts at peacemaking on the part of many individuals and several churches. I some places new peace committees have been formed, and in others existing committees have taken on new life.

PLAN NOW FOR U.N. WEEK

UNITED NATIONS WEEK, October 17-24, 1954, a guide to churches and synagogues in the celebration of the anniversary of the U.N., has just been published and is available from the Board of World Peace. It contains a prayer for the U.N., suggestions for church and community observ ances of U.N. Week and World Order Sunda material on Charter review, a list of recommended films, etc. It will reach twenty-nine thousand Methodist ministers and lay leaders in a September mailing. $1.00 per hundred.